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TAGS: PINS, PTER, EPET, PHU, CO SUBJECT: ELN DEMANDS OXY LEAVE

REFTEL: BOGOTA 9322 AND PREVIOUS

- 1. THE FOLLOWING IS SYNOPSIS OF THE COPY OF A LETTER RECEIVED BY THE EMBASSY AND VARIOUS PRESS ORGANIZATIONS ON JUE 27 FROM THE SELF-STYLED NATIONAL LIBERATION AMY (ELN), AND ADDRESSED TO MINISTER OF MINES OSCAR MEJIA VALLEJO. THE LETTER LAYS OUT THE ELN'S RATIONALE FOR ITS CONTINUING BOMBING ATTACKS AGAINST THE CANO LIMON-COVENAS OIL PIPELINE. THE PIPELINE HAS BEEN BOMBED 47 TIMES FROM JANUARY 1 THROUGH JUNE 28, 1988. THE LETTER IGNORES PREVIOUS GOC EXPLANATIONS THAT 80 OF THE REVENUES FROM THE PIPELINE STAY IN COLOMBIA, AND THAT MUCH OF THAT DIRECTLY BENEFITS THOSE RESIDING IN THE AREA OF THE PIPELINE.
- 2. IN ITS LETTER THE ELN STATES THAT "COLOMBIAN OIL POLICIES MUST BE RADICALLY CHANGED" AND CLAIMS THAT THIS DEMAND IS SUPPORTED BY THE COLOMBIAN OIL WORKERS, THE UNITED WORKERS CONFEDERATION ("CUT"), THE CAMPESINO UNCLASSIFIED

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MARCHERS, THE "SIMON BOLIVAR GUERRILLA COORDINATOR" AND WIDE SECTORS OF NATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION. THIS CHANGE, IT SAYS, CAN BE ACHIEVED ONLY THROUGH A NATIONAL,

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J. OLSON DATE/CASE ID: 30 OCT 2002 200201334

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PUBLIC DEBATE, WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS. THE LETTER ALSO CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING POINTS.

- THE ELN DEMANDS NATIONALIZATION OF THE CANO LIMON PIPELINE, EXPULSION OF THE OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM COMPANY FROM COLOMBIA, IMMEDIATE REVERSION OF OIL CONCESSIONS, REVISION OF ASSOCIATION CONTRACTS, A POLICY FOR STRATEGIC OIL RESERVES, DOMESTIC EXPLOITATION OF RESOURCES, A DEVELOPMENT POLICY TO BENEFIT THE VARIOUS COLOMBIAN REGIONS, AND COLLECTIVE HIRING OF OIL WORKERS.
- -- THE ELN CLAIMS THAT A DIALOGUE TO DISCUSS THE OIL SITUATION WAS PROPOSED TO THE GOC LAST MAY 1987, BUT NO RESPONSE HAS BEEN RECEIVED.
- THE LETTER REITERATES THE ELN'S INTEREST IN HOLDING A DIALOGUE WITH THE GOC TO FIND A "SOLUTION TO THE OIL PROBLEM." IT REQUESTS A PUBLIC STATEMENT FROM THE GOC ON HOW IT WILL SOLVE THIS PROBLEM. THE LETTER IS SIGNED BY MANUEL PEREZ MARTINEZ AND NICOLAS RODRIGUEZ BAUTISTA AND DATED JUNE 20, 1988, "FROM THE MOUNTAINS OF COLOMBIA". GILLESPIE.

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